

THE VALID GENERIC PLACEMENT FOR
"CALOTHYSANIS" AMATURARIA (WALKER)
(GEOMETRIDAE, STERRHINAE)

Additional key words: taxonomy, *Timandra amaturaria*.

The common eastern North American sterrhine geometrid moth described by Walker in 1866 as *Timandra amaturaria* has often been placed in the genus *Calothysanis* Hübner 1823. Examples are A. S. Packard (1876, Monograph of the geometrid moths or Phalaenidae of the United States, in Hayden, F. V., Report of the United States Geological Survey of the Territories 10:317), L. B. Prout (1934, Lepidopterorum catalogus, Part 61: 51), Prout in A. Seitz (1936, Macrolepidoptera of the world, Vol. 8:94), and W. T. M. Forbes (1948, Lepidoptera of New York and neighboring states, Part 2:119).

Timandra, on the other hand, was used in the 1917 check list of Barnes and McDunnough and the 1938 one of McDunnough (numbers 3913 and 4205, respectively), as well as in earlier works by A. Guenée, C. F. Gumpfenberg, and Prout himself (1913, in Seitz, A., Macrolepidoptera of the world, Vol. 4:47). Both combinations have appeared in other literature, and on the head labels of collections, creating considerable confusion.

Since *Calothysanis* Hübner 1823 predated *Timandra* Duponchel 1829, and had been applied by Forbes and by Prout in his most recent works, I used *Calothysanis* in my Sterrhinae section of the R. W. Hodges (ed.) (1983) Check list of the Lepidoptera of America north of Mexico (p. 100) and my *Field Guide to Moths of Eastern North America* (Covell 1985, p. 377; pl. 46, fig. 14).

Prout (1913) chose *Timandra* over *Calothysanis* on the basis of Butler's selection of *Acidalia imitaria* Hübner as the type of *Calothysanis* (Butler, A. G. 1881, Trans. Entomol. Soc. London 1881:342). D. S. Fletcher (1979, in Nye, I. W. B., Generic names of the moths of the world, Vol. 3:34) verified that selection.

The type of *Timandra* was originally designated as *Phalaena amataria* Linnaeus 1761. Fletcher, in his treatment of *Timandra* (p. 206), pointed out that *Phalaena amataria* Linnaeus is an unjustified emendation of *P. amata* Linnaeus, and therefore an objective synonym of *amata*. The original description of *amata* was based not on specimens but on two figures in another work, which turn out to be two other species. An unnamed series of moths left by Linnaeus were misidentified by later workers as *P. amataria*. Fletcher concluded that *Timandra griseata* Petersen 1902 is the earliest available name for those moths which Linnaeus had misidentified as *P. amataria*, and is therefore the type of *Timandra*.

Since *imitaria* Hübner is in the genus *Scopula* Schrank 1802, *Calothysanis* must be considered a junior synonym of *Scopula* as it was thus first published by Prout (1934: 169).

The generic and species treatments in Hodges (above) should therefore read as follows:

TIMANDRA Dup., 1829

BRADYEPETES Steph., 1831

7147 amaturaria Wlk., 1866

effusaria (Prout, 1936)

The other 14 species of *Timandra*, including *griseata*, occur in Eurasia (Prout 1934). The author thanks an anonymous reviewer for helpful criticism.

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